

(III) BENEFIT PROVIDED TO A STATE EMPLOYEE COVERED BY THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 41, § 4-1002 OF THE CODE.

(d) (1) On notification by the head of the unit that employed the decedent, the Secretary shall determine whether a death benefit will be paid under this section.

(2) If the Secretary determines that a death benefit is payable, payment shall be made:

(i) to the surviving spouse;

(ii) if there is no surviving spouse, to the surviving children, in equal shares; or

(iii) if there is no surviving spouse or children, to the surviving parent or parents, if the parent was a dependent as defined in § 152 of the Internal Revenue Code.

(e) A death benefit under this section shall be paid out of funds which the Governor may appropriate for that purpose in the State budget.

(f) A decision of the Secretary under this section:

(1) is the final administrative decision; and

(2) is not subject to appeal under Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the provisions of this Act shall be construed retroactively and applied to any State employee covered by the provisions of Article 41, § 4-1002 of the Code who dies on or after July 1, 2000.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Approved April 20, 2001.

CHAPTER 254

(House Bill 669)

AN ACT concerning

Drunk and Drugged Driving - Ignition Interlock System Program

FOR the purpose of repealing the authority of the Motor Vehicle Administration to reduce the period of certain suspensions of drivers' licenses for certain alcohol- or drug-related driving offenses if an individual is a participant in the Ignition Interlock System Program for certain periods; providing that the Administration may issue a restrictive license to an individual during the entire period of certain suspensions of drivers' licenses for certain alcohol- or drug-related driving offenses if the individual is a participant in the Program; and generally